

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below, in which deleted terms are shown with strikethrough and added terms are shown with underscoring. Also, please add new claims 17-20 shown below.

1. (Currently amended) A sound insulation/absorption structure having a film member ~~such as a polymer film and a metal foil~~ formed of at least one of polymer and metal, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the film member is formed into a curved shape such as a dome, a barrel, and a cone, ~~[[the]]~~ a periphery of this curved shape is fixed to another structure, and ~~[[the]]~~ a resonance frequency of the curved shape in ~~[[the]]~~ in-plane stretching is set at a frequency equal to or higher than ~~[[the]]~~ an audible frequency band to insulate or absorb sound by ~~[[the]]~~ elastic force of the film member.

2. (Currently amended) A sound insulation/absorption structure comprising a film member ~~, such as a polymer film and a metal foil~~ formed of at least one of polymer and metal, and a frame body having at least one opening of a lattice, honeycomb or annular shape, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the film member is fixed to the frame body, ~~[[the]]~~ a section of the film member surrounded by the frame body is formed into a curved shape such as a dome, a barrel, and a cone, and ~~[[the]]~~ a resonance frequency of the curved shape in ~~[[the]]~~ in-plane stretching is set at a frequency equal to or higher than ~~[[the]]~~ an audible frequency band to insulate or absorb sound by ~~[[the]]~~ elastic force of the film member.

3. (Currently amended) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to claim 1 ~~or~~

~~claim 2, wherein~~ further comprising a holding means ~~is provided~~ to hold the film member in the curved shape.

4. (Currently amended) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein a tensile force is applied to the film member.

5. (Currently amended) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein the film member is replaced by a plate member, such as a plastic plate, a metal plate, and a veneer ~~[[board]]~~ plate, molded into ~~[[a]]~~ the curved shape such as a dome, a barrel, and a cone.

6. (Currently amended) A sound insulation/absorption structure comprising a film member, a frame body, an elastic body, and a supporting plate, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the elastic body and the film member are ~~[[put]]~~ disposed on the supporting plate to be pressed with the frame body so that the elastic body and the film member are held between the frame body and the supporting plate to apply a tensile force to the film member, the film member is formed into a curved shape such as a dome, and ~~[[the]]~~ a resonance frequency of the curved shape in ~~[[the]]~~ in-plane stretching is set at a frequency equal to or higher than ~~[[the]]~~ an audible frequency band to insulate or absorb sound by ~~[[the]]~~ elastic force of the film member.

7. (Currently amended) A sound insulation/absorption structure comprising two film members, a frame body, and an elastic body, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the elastic body is

placed between the two film members, the elastic body and the two film members are held between the frame body to apply a tensile force to the two film members, the two film members are respectively formed into a curved shape, and ~~[[the]]~~ a resonance frequency of the curved shape in ~~[[the]]~~ in-plane stretching is set at a frequency equal to or higher than ~~[[the]]~~ an audible frequency band to insulate or absorb sound by ~~[[the]]~~ elastic force of the film.

8. (Currently amended) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, wherein the film member formed into a curved shape ~~or the plate member formed into a curved shape~~ is set in a one-dimensional or two-dimensional array.

9. (Currently amended) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 8~~ claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ surface density, elastic constant, outer peripheral dimensions, and curvature radius of ~~[[the]]~~ a curved section of the film member ~~or the plate member~~ are set so that the resonance frequency of the curved shape in the in-plane stretching vibration is within or higher than the audible frequency band.

10. (Currently amended) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to ~~any one of claims 2 through 9~~ claim 2, wherein the film member ~~or the plate member~~ and the frame body ~~securing these~~ are integrally formed.

11. (Currently amended) A sound insulation/absorption device ~~characterized in that the film member or the plate member constituting~~ comprising the sound insulation/absorption structure

according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 10~~ is provided with claim 1, a piezoelectric member provided with the film member, and a circuit presenting a negative capacitance ~~[[is]]~~ connected to ~~[[this]]~~ the piezoelectric member.

12. (Currently amended) The sound insulation/absorption device ~~characterized in that the film member or the plate member constituting~~ comprising the sound insulation/absorption structure according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 10~~ is a member with claim 1, wherein the film member thereof has piezoelectric characteristics, and a circuit presenting a negative capacitance is connected to ~~[[this]]~~ the film member.

13. (Currently amended) A structure having the sound insulation/absorption structure according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 10~~ claim 1 applied thereto, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sound insulation/absorption structure is applied to structures such as an automobile, a vehicle such as an electric train, an aircraft, a marine vessel and other transport equipment (vehicle), a panel, a partition and other building material, a sound insulation wall, a sound-proof wall, a building structure, a chamber, electric equipment, a machine, and acoustic equipment to insulate or absorb sound.

14. (Currently amended) A member constituting the structure having the sound insulation/absorption structure according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 10~~ claim 2 applied thereto, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sound insulation/absorption structure is applied to a member constituting the structure such as an automobile, a vehicle such as an electric train, an

aircraft, a marine vessel and other transport equipment (vehicle), a panel, a partition and other building material, a sound insulation wall, a sound-proof wall, a building structure, a chamber, electric equipment, a machine, and acoustic equipment to insulate or absorb sound.

15. (Currently amended) A structure having the sound insulation/absorption device according to claim 11 ~~or claim 12~~ applied thereto, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sound insulation/absorption device is applied to the structure such as an automobile, a vehicle such as an electric train, an aircraft, a marine vessel and other transport equipment (vehicle), a panel, a partition and other building material, a sound insulation wall, a sound-proof wall, a building structure, a chamber, electric equipment, a machine, and acoustic equipment to insulate or absorb sound.

16. (Currently amended) A member constituting the structure having the sound insulation/absorption device according to ~~claim 11 or~~ claim 12 applied thereto, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sound insulation/absorption device is applied to the member constituting the structure such as an automobile, a vehicle such as an electric train, an aircraft, a marine vessel and other transport equipment (vehicle), a panel, a partition and other building material, a sound insulation wall, a sound-proof wall, a building structure, a chamber, electric equipment, a machine, and acoustic equipment to insulate or absorb sound.

17. (New) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to claim 2, further comprising a holder to hold the film member in the curved shape.

18. (New) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to claim 2, wherein a tensile force is applied to the film member.

19. (New) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to claim 2, wherein the film member formed into a curved shape is set in a one-dimensional or two-dimensional array.

20. (New) The sound insulation/absorption structure according to claim 2, wherein surface density, elastic constant, outer peripheral dimensions, and curvature radius of a curved section of the film member are set so that the resonance frequency of the curved shape in the in-plane stretching vibration is within or higher than the audible frequency band.